4. (Amended) An imaging apparatus for generating an image signal from incident light with higher spatial frequencies of said incident light limited to reduce undersampling artifacts, said apparatus comprising:

an image sensor for generating the image signal from an array of photosites; [and]

an optical section having a birefringent uniaxial crystal [optical] spatial filter interposed in a path of the incident light which removes a portion of said high spatial frequencies in said incident light to produce a blurred image on said photosites, said birefringent uniaxial crystal optical filter being Lithium Tantalate[.]; and

wherein said spatial filter is comprised of a first plane plate and at least a second plane plate of lithium niobate.

5. (Amended) An imaging apparatus as in Claim 1 wherein an angle between an optical axis of said spatial [filter] filters and a line normal to a filter facet is 37.85°.

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15. (Amended) An imaging apparatus as in claim [7] 1, wherein said second plate comprises a plane which is tilted at a 45° angle to a plane of said first plate.

Please add new claims 16 and 17 as follows:

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An imaging apparatus as in claim 1 wherein a thickness of said first plate is equal to a thickness of said second plate.

An imaging apparatus as in claim 1 wherein a thickness of said first plate is not equal to a thickness of said second plate.--

REMARKS

Claims 2, 3, 6-9, 14 and 16 having been canceled, and new claims 16 and 17 having been added, the claims pending in the application are 1, 4, 5, 7, 10-13 and 15-17.